

Belmont Chronicle.

St. Clairsville, Ohio, May 26.

"All communications intended for insertion in the paper, or upon business relating to the office, should be addressed to Belmont Chronicle, St. Clairsville, Ohio."



Flag of the free heart's hope and home:
By angel hands to valor given;
They state have left the western dome,
And all their hues were born in heaven.
Forever float that standard true,
Where Freedom's flag has fallen before us,
With Freedom's soul beneath our feet,
And Freedom's banner streaming o'er us!

THE SITUATION.

There is a full in the clash of arms; but all around, from the Mattaponi to Kingston, Ga., preparations are going forward for another great struggle.

On Friday night and Saturday Gen. Grant made a successful movement, by which he flanked Lee's position on the right, and it is thought compelled him to abandon his fortified positions in front of Spotsylvania C. H. About one hour and a half after Hancock moved his corps Longstreet moved South, and Ewell followed on Saturday morning. The Army of the Potomac has occupied Guinea and Millford Station, on the Richmond and Fredericksburg Railroad, and that line South of the Mattaponi River. It is presumed this will compel Lee to fall back South of the North Anna River, in order to strike the Virginia Central Railroad and reopen his communications. Lee's army has been reinforced, but not largely. Grant is very nearly as strong as when he crossed the Rapidan. We look for stirring news from the East soon.

Gen. Sherman has pressed his advance as far as Cassville, seven miles South of Kingston. There has been heavy skirmishing, but no battle. Rome has been occupied, and several large iron mills and other Rebel property destroyed. Gen. Sherman is only about fifty miles from Atlanta, and we will guarantee that energetic and capable commander loses no time in getting there.

Gen. Sigel has been superseded, and Gen. Hunter takes his place as commander of West Virginia and the Shenandoah Valley.

ANXIOUS FOR MARTYRS.

The Butternuts are particularly anxious for an increase of martyrs in their party. They have, since the commencement of the Rebellion, been very bold in the utterance of treasonable language, whenever or wherever it was likely to give offense, or produce such results as the community or Government was bound to take notice of. They succeeded in the earlier part of the struggle in attracting some attention, and a few of them were honored by an arrest, at the instance of the Government. These arrests were used by the leaders for the purpose of infusing some life into the ranks of their demoralized and broken party, and as they had neither principle nor the "cohesive power of public plunder" to hold them together, they sought, by magnifying the number and misrepresenting the nature of these arrests, to arouse the sympathies and prejudices of the faithful, and thus secure their undivided efforts for the success of the party.

Arbitrary, illegal arrests, was the theme of the party in the past campaign; and, although unsuccessful, they are still anxious for more arrests—for the reason, we suppose, that they have sung that song until they are familiar with it, and, like they are with their bottles, they understand how to get out of it all that is in it. So solicitous have they become upon this subject that they take hold of every criminal occurrence, where the accused is a Butternut, and attempt to make a party affair of it. If one of their number is arrested for assault and battery, with intent to kill, horse stealing, murder, treason, or other crime, they at once rally to the rescue, and attempt to make party capital out of it.

On Saturday last, when it was learned here that Medary, of the Crisis, had been arrested, one of the Butternuts here, the *Mogul* of the tribe, said: "Good! I am glad of it!" Another one said: "That is just what Sam Medary has been wanting."

There was a time when, if a Grand Jury should find a man guilty of a crime, it was a matter of regret to his friends; but, in the high state of morals to which the present Federal party has attained, an indictment for treason or other crime only makes the subject of it more popular, and he is at once looked upon as a martyr, and sainted accordingly. Saint Medary has thus been added to their Calendar of Saints.

An Infamous Forgery.
The following from the Cincinnati Gazette describes so well the actions of the K. G. C.'s of this locality on the receipt of the "bogus Proclamation," and meets our view of what ought to be done with men who resort to such villainous means to deceive the people and destroy their confidence in the Government, that we publish it instead of writing anything on the subject:

Yesterday, at 12 o'clock, there was issued in the first edition of the Times, a dispatch sent from New York by the Associated Press, containing a proclamation published in the New York World of yesterday morning, said to have been issued by the President, announcing that the condition of affairs was discouraging; appointing a day of humiliation and prayer, and making an additional call for four hundred thousand men, which, in order that this villainous transaction may be the better comprehended, we reproduce:

EXECUTIVE MANSION, May 17.
Fellow Citizens of the United States. In all seasons of exigencies it becomes a nation carefully to scrutinize its line of conduct, humbly to approach the throne of grace, and meekly implore forgiveness, wisdom and guidance. For reasons known only to Him, it has been decreed that this country should be the scene of unparalleled outrage, and this nation the monumental sufferer of the nineteenth century. With heavy heart, but undiminished confidence in our cause, I approach the performance of a duty rendered imperative by my sense of weakness before the Almighty, and of justice to the people.

It is not necessary I should tell you that the first Virginia campaign, under Lieut.-Gen. Grant, in whom I have every confidence, and whose courage and fidelity the people do well to honor, is virtually closed. He has achieved his great triumph, and his discretion; he has inflicted great loss upon the enemy; he has crippled their strength and defeated their plans. In view, however, of the situation in Virginia and the disaster at Red River, the delay at Charleston, and the general state of the country, I, Abraham Lincoln, do hereby recommend that the President of the United States, as a day of fasting, humiliation and prayer.

Deeming, furthermore, that the present condition of affairs presents an extraordinary occasion, and in view of the power vested in me by the Constitution and laws, I thought fit to call forth, and hereby do call forth, citizens of the United States, between the ages of 18 and 45, to the aggregate number of 400,000, in order to suppress the existing rebellious combinations, and cause due execution of the laws; and furthermore, in any State or number of States shall be left by the 15th of June next to be assigned quotas, it is hereby ordered that the same be drafted by immediate and peremptory draft.

The details of this object will be communicated to the State authorities through the War Department. I appeal to all loyal citizens to favor this patriotic and just effort to maintain the honor and integrity and existence of our National Union, and the perpetuity of popular government. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand, and caused the seal of the United States to be fixed. Done at Washington this 17th day of May, in the year of our Lord 1864, and of the Independence of the United States, 88th.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.
By the President,
WM. H. SEWARD, Secretary of State.

The publication of this document caused great excitement throughout the city, and loyal people who did not stop to consider the probability of its being a forgery, were more deeply moved and excited from the fact that all reports thus far had been favorable. The Copperheads, on the other hand, were jubilant. They swarmed in the vicinity of the Third street coffee houses like so many mud turtles that had crawled out from their hiding places to sun themselves. They shook each other by the hand in accordance with the grips and signs of the K. G. C.'s, and liquor, in copious streams, flowed down the throats of traitors. These Northern men; these professed Democrats; these American citizens, exulted over the supposed intelligence that our army had been defeated; that our friends, our sons, and our brothers had been slaughtered in vain, and that the destruction of our Government was in greater danger than ever. Humiliating as it is to admit that such men live in Cincinnati, and that many of them have grown rich from contracts given by the Government, the deception and the desire, yet it is useless to attempt to conceal the fact.

But happily their hour of rejoicing was a brief one. Their own friends had deceived them. About one o'clock the following dispatch was received by the Associated Press:

NEW YORK, May 18.
The World announces on its bulletin board, that the proclamation published by it, signed by Abraham Lincoln, is a base and fraudulent forgery. The Associated Press has received a dispatch from the Secretary of State, saying that the paper purporting to be the President's Proclamation, is an absolute forgery. No such has been issued or proposed to be issued.

Having already taken liberties with the theme of the party in the past campaign, and, although unsuccessful, they are still anxious for more arrests—for the reason, we suppose, that they have sung that song until they are familiar with it, and, like they are with their bottles, they understand how to get out of it all that is in it. So solicitous have they become upon this subject that they take hold of every criminal occurrence, where the accused is a Butternut, and attempt to make a party affair of it. If one of their number is arrested for assault and battery, with intent to kill, horse stealing, murder, treason, or other crime, they at once rally to the rescue, and attempt to make party capital out of it.

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General Steele's Campaign in Arkansas.

The following letter to Judge Cowen, though not intended for publication, was permitted to publish. It contains a reliable narrative of an important part of the history of the late disastrous campaign West of the Mississippi:

LITTLE ROCK, ARK., May 7th.
MY DEAR SIR: About the 25th of February I was relieved at St. Louis, and arrived at this place about the 10th March. On the 23d I started for Camden, in Gen. Steele's expedition, which proved a very disastrous one, not in being defeated in any battle, for we whipped them in every fight, but in the amount of property lost and destroyed, and in the extreme sufferings of the men. I presume you will be interested in a detailed account, and I think I can give it to you in the space of a few lines.

We were gone forty days, thirty-seven of which some part of our command was under fire; twenty-three days of which, I was engaged in skirmishing or in pitched battles. I shall not give you a detail of the skirmishes which commenced the next day after we left here, but of the principal battles, and matters that governed our movements.

I was appointed to the command of one hundred dismounted veterans of the 1st Iowa Cavalry, there being about 500 men dismounted and making up a Battalion. We took the road to Washington. On the 2d of April at the crossing of the Little Missouri river, we had a severe fight, lasting about four hours, when the enemy retreated. The next morning we crossed the river. On Sunday, the 10th, about 10 o'clock, we came on to Prairie Des Anne, in Hemlock Co., about 25 miles Southwest from Camden. They had thrown up strong fortifications on the edge of the Prairie, on the road to Shreveport. We skirmished and fought with them all day up to about 9 o'clock at night, when it suddenly ceased. We were now in line, two regiments of Infantry, one Battery and our household men. About 10 o'clock the moon being down and very dark, the rebels charged on us with some 6,000 mounted men. It was a most terrible sight, and I suppose if I stay in the army for twenty years, I will never see the like again. The flashing and roaring of artillery, the rattling and crashing of small arms, the giving of orders, the shrieking and yelling of the wounded, and then what made it more horrible to me than all the rest, was the yells of pain and agony of the wounded horses, which seemed to rise above all. It was indeed most horrible. I sometimes shudder now when I think of it, but I did not then, all I thought about was to repulse them, which we did. All was quiet for some hours, when the same scene was enacted, with the same result, after which no more fighting that night. We had been fighting all day, with nothing to eat, the wagons some four miles in the rear, and clothed as lightly as possible, being on foot, we began to get tired and weary, we would lie down, but in a few minutes would get up and say we had to get up to move about. I do not know that I ever passed a night before in which I suffered so much from cold, sleeplessness and hunger. At daylight the skirmishing commenced, and continued up to about 3 o'clock—about 9 in the morning we had some fighting, and then we moved on, and advanced our line and drove them before us to within a mile or less of their works, fighting on until dark. About 9 o'clock at night we were allowed to fall back and get a little rest, but at daylight we started out and took up our position that we had left the night before.

I was on a small rise on the edge of the Prairie. Back of me it gradually sloped up for near a mile and some four miles in length, then a level for miles. It was in my full view that the whole army was drawn up in line of battle, about 16,000 men or more. A most magnificent sight. But they would not fight us, only firing and falling back. We pushed on and through their works, and beyond near five miles, on the Shreveport road, when we turned back and started for Camden. On Friday morning the 15th, we were within eighteen miles. About 8 o'clock, and thirteen miles out, we were met by the enemy, and fought two hours, we drove them off. We pushed on, rapidly as possible, fighting all the way, getting into Camden about 6 o'clock. I send you a copy of a circular issued to us.

HEADQUARTERS 3D BRIGADE CAV. DIV., 7TH ARMY CORPS, April 16.
The Lt.-Col. commanding is requested by Brig.-Gen. S. A. Rice, to thank in his name the dismounted officers and men of the 3d Brigade, Cavalry Division, who led his advance column yesterday, for the zeal, energy and bravery displayed on every occasion, and for their bold daring during which resulted in the rout of the enemy and the occupation of Camden by the U. S. forces.

Lt.-Col. Com'g, 3d Brig., Cav. Div.
This was a very pretty compliment, and we appreciated it, yet we were not moved by it, by the severest duty. I was the first man, with some ten soldiers in the place. The enemy had burnt all the forage and removed or destroyed all the provisions. On Monday they took a forage train of ours, 120 wagons. The 1st Kansas Colored, was along. The rebels did not take any prisoners, but killed all the negroes that fell into their hands. This was our first reverse. On the following Monday they took a return supply train of near 400 wagons, this out off; our rations were about out, we had had but about fifteen ears of corn to last for five days. On Tuesday General Steele ordered the place evacuated, and we moved immediately. On Friday, the 20th, we reached the Saline river, on the road through Princeton to this place. The road was very bad, the valley being low and marshy, a heavy rain came on—lasting all night—about 3 o'clock Friday, the enemy attacked us, and we fought a severe battle, lasting about five hours. Hereafter we had been fighting Price's command of 16,000 men, but he was joined by Kirby Smith, with some 8,000—about 1,000 not being able to get up in time. Our forces were now about 20,000. In killed and wounded, prisoners and captured property, we were reduced to about 16,000, making near 14,000 fighting men—we drove them back about four miles, with a loss of near 1,000 in killed and wounded, the enemy about 1,000 killed and the same wounded. The reason for the killed was greater in proportion, was that the 2d Kansas Negroes did all that fell into their hands, crying out as they did so "remember the 'Just'." Referring to the killing of the 1st Kansas. They were stopped as soon as possible.

Gen. Steele found that he could not move the train with any certainty the roads being so bad, without risking another battle, which he could not do, hampered with the baggage, &c. I lost everything I had, except what was on my back. I presume I will get paid some day. We came on here, getting in on Monday.

I saw a great amount of suffering in every way, men without a bite to eat for three days, and not one of us that had been fully satisfied for seven, not sleeping more than twenty hours in all the time, yet there was no demoralization, every man was ready to understand the situation, and did their best to improve it without complaint. Our success was complete and we had defeated the enemy on every occasion, where we had a chance, only from causes that we could not see, we were forced to fall back.

I am, very respectfully, &c.,
Co. L, 1st Iowa Cav.

The 126th Ohio Volunteers.

Letter from Capt. Hoge.

HEADQUARTERS CO. B, 126TH OHIO VOL., 2d BRIG., 3d DIV., 6th ARMY CORPS, A. C., May 17, 1864.
To the Editor of the Belmont Chronicle:
Sir: Permit me, for the information of those interested, to place on record a brief history of the record and doings of the 126th Ohio Volunteers, and particularly of company B.

Before daylight on the morning of the 4th inst, the regiment left its winter quarters, and that day crossed the Rapidan at Germania Ford. Next day it marched to the front, and late in the evening formed the extreme right of the third line of battle, on the extreme right of the army, in an advance upon the enemy's left. A brisk fight between our front line, the 6th Maryland and 110th Ohio and the enemy occurred after dark, without important results, save in killed and wounded. We laid on our arms that night, without much change of position, and by morning two lines were withdrawn, leaving but one, of which the 126th Ohio formed the extreme right, while we made an advance upon the enemy, and announced to take place on the morning of the 6th. At about 8 o'clock A. M. we advanced through a thick forest, and soon became hotly engaged. The regiment fought gallantly for more than an hour, when it was withdrawn in good order.

The conduct of Col. Smith on this occasion was noble, and elicited the admiration of all who beheld it. He rode continually along the line, cheering on his men and inspiring them with courage. The men would follow him anywhere, so great is their confidence in his cool bravery and military skill. The command of the brigade had been taken from him and given to Gen. Seymour on the day before. The whole brigade, if left to choose, would now select Col. Smith as their commander. His military education, experience, bravery, and good qualities should have long ago made him a Brigadier in fact as he has been for more than a year. He is not only a brave and true soldier, but a man of high character, and one who will place, or press his claims—and merit of itself is slow to win where there is striving competition and scrambling for place.

Lieut.-Col. Elbright behaved with much gallantry. The loss of the regiment in this action was Lieut. Hillis, mortally wounded, and Lieut. Moore and Hixon, severely wounded—about 23 men killed, and 124 wounded. Lieut. Hillis was a good officer, and his good social qualities made him a large number of strong friends, who mourn his loss. He was doing his duty as a true officer when he was struck down, and died a faithful soldier. Sergeant Moore was killed. He was a very industrious, faithful, and useful man to the company. He was scarcely able to keep up on the march, but was determined to be present when the trying hour should come. No truer soldier has laid down his life for his country.

During the evening, just about sunset, the regiment occupied a position in the front line, connecting on the right with General Shaler's brigade of the 1st Division, which had been placed there soon after the morning's engagement. A dense thicket of underbrush lay in the rear and on the left, while in front and on the right was an extensive wood. All at once the enemy charged through the wood in great force upon the right flank of our line, completely and suddenly turning it, doubling Shaler's brigade upon our flank, rendering it impossible for us to fire upon the enemy, who was then pouring into us, through our ranks, a most deadly and accurate fire. We could also tell by the peculiar rebel yell that our rear was rapidly being gained, and it became evident that we must fall quickly back toward the left, or be captured. This could not be done in good order through the dense thicket, with the men of Shaler's brigade, and a large portion of those who were called in the morning to the front, and aided in driving back the enemy. Others had passed before any successful effort to form a line had been made. The whole regiment was assembled the next morning, save those who were killed or captured. The company, being on the left, was the first to be driven back, and for a quarter of an hour it was in a desperate struggle. I ordered it to retire. Five of the company are known to have been wounded, and 8 are missing, supposed to be captured. The missing of the regiment is 2 officers and 64 men. Gen. Seymour was captured, and Col. Smith was called on to surrender, but through a shower of bullets, Capt. Lyons was killed, Capt. Francis mortally wounded, Capt. McCready and Lieuts. McKinnis and Kerr wounded, and Lieuts. Watson, Harrison and Kelley missing.

On the night of the 7th and on the 8th we marched to the vicinity of Spotsylvania C. H., where our army again confronted the enemy, and there we fought a battle on the 9th. The fighting was exceedingly severe and without a moment's cessation. Many were killed and a large number of wounded brought in. Late in the evening 100 men, including my company, were sent out to support the skirmishers of the 2d Div. In front of our brigade in an advance upon the enemy, for the purpose of ascertaining whether the enemy was falling back. The line advanced—many fell back—our men took their places and finally the whole were deployed—we advanced through a dense pine forest hotly resisted till we approached within sight of the enemy's works. The enemy then opened a heavy fire upon us, and we were compelled to retire. Our regiment was killed and 3 men killed, wounded and one missing, besides others lost belonging to the 2d Division.

During the session of the recent U. S. Grand Jury in this city, an indictment was found against him, supposed to be for conspiracy, in connection with the outbreak of P. Thomas & Co.'s operations, as their counsel, and for the purpose of defrauding the Enquirer office being sent for, the proprietors were on his bonds for \$3,000, to appear before Court on the day of trial.—[Cin. Gaz., Saturday.

Converted.
A Copperhead up North, after days and nights of great tribulation, got religion. The first thing he did, as evidence of the soundness of his conversion, was to order a discontinuance of the *Dubuque Herald*. He then paid for a load of wood which was deposited in front of a house occupied by a soldier's family. After which he was met by a butternut with whom he had been on intimate terms, and informed that "he was a soldier, a soldier, a soldier!" In less than two and a half seconds the author of the abusive language was so thoroughly thrashed by the young convert that he was bawled for mercy! That's a sound conversion!—[Iowa State Register.

THE LAST TWO.—In a regiment of 100 day men, which left this city on Saturday for the great battle-ground of the East, were two brothers—the first two of a family of eight sons who have nobly responded to the call of their country, leaving their aged father's home to plant and reap, with the glorious satisfaction that he has been the humble instrument in the hand of God in giving eight strong, brave men to fight for the preservation of our free institutions. There are no Copperheads in this Army!—[Columbian Express.

some and distributing other, still no relief came—finally the enemy commenced advancing to nearer range, when, being in command of the regiment, Lieut.-Col. Elbright was wounded early in the action. I ordered it to fall back behind the lines in the rear, which was done in good order. The regiment which afterwards relieved us did not advance to our place, but took position behind our dead. Our number engaged was about 300, 19 were killed and a large number wounded. Company B did not suffer as much as others, for the reason that it was protected from a cross fire from the enemy's right, and was partially concealed by some bushes on our line. Five were wounded—not dangerously. All behaved gallantly, but seeing Adjutant Hyatt and Sergeant Seymour were conspicuous on all along the line for the daring and reckless exposure of their persons and their efforts to encourage the men.

I fell proud to say that the regiment is not demoralized. I believe it has not a dozen stragglers out of the 560 which crossed the Rapidan, and the remnant would again give a good account of itself if called on. Several who skulked to the rear in the first action behaved gallantly in the last, and a manifest disposition is shown not to tarnish the fair name of the regiment, so dearly earned.

The entire loss is 4 officers killed, 6 wounded, 2 missing, and 126, including the 2 Surgeons, 45 non-commissioned officers and privates killed, 191 wounded, and 65 missing.

I feel that I should not close this communication without a word as to Surgeon Ely. Having received an appointment from the President as Assistant Surgeon of Volunteers, he tendered his resignation as Surgeon of the regiment, which was accepted before crossing the Rapidan, but he was ordered to report at Washington, but he generously volunteered to remain and risk any danger in not reporting, as ordered to, feeling justified by the necessity of the time, and has been doing all he could to relieve the wounded.

The detailed losses of the company I forwarded you some days since, and therefore have not repeated them here. If this poor attempt at a faithful history of the recent terrible scenes through which the regiment has passed, will afford any gratification to the relatives and friends of those who compose it, or have fallen in defense of its honor and glorious cause, I shall feel that I have only discharged my duty in the premises.

G. W. HOGG,
Capt. 126th Ohio Vol's.

"We'll Rally Round the Flag, Boys."
Bayard Taylor, in an immortal piece of poetry, tells us of how a British soldier, while the allied troops were lying under the frowning ramparts of Sebastopol, listening to the "bellowing of the mortars," struck up the song of "Annie Laurie," and how the whole line caught it up, until it swelled into a grand anthem. Who shall put the following, as related by the correspondent of the N. Y. Tribune with the Army of the Potomac, into immortal verse?

During one of these eventful nights, when the troops lay in line of battle behind their temporary fortifications of dirt, logs, and rails, and the continuous crack of the sharp-shooter's rifle rolled along our front, a solitary voice struck up the patriotic song, "Rally round the flag, boys," and almost instantly thousands of the men, who seemed to have been waiting for something to dissipate the gloom which thoughts of the day's carnage had engendered, were shouting in a chorus which "shook the depth of the forest's gloom."

"The Union forever, hurrah, boys, hurrah!" Down with the traitors and up with the stars, &c. As down the line it went, the refrain swelled into one vast roar, exultant, triumphant, and breathing defiance to the wary enemy, whose only reply was the spiteful whizz of extra bullets from their skirmish line whistling harmlessly by. This little episode, so suddenly and so inspiringly introduced, could not but have quickly irritated "Johnny Reb."

Gen. Grant and his Campaign.

Forney, of the Philadelphia Press, writes the following to his paper from Washington:

Before Grant left for the army, the President wrote him a warm and grateful letter, thanking him for his energy and his devotion, and wishing him "God-speed" in the sublime task that had been assigned to him. To this epistle it is said the General briefly and modestly replied, stating that he would do his utmost to fulfill public expectations, and that he was under the deepest obligations to Mr. Lincoln and the Administration; that all his requests had been complied with, and that each and all had labored to encourage, assist and strengthen him. Upon one brain, therefore, all the chief military responsibility of the Republic had been placed, and he was to have of care and such duties been devolved upon any human being. Should General Grant be equal to this mighty work, he will be the deliverer of his country.

Arrest of Sam. Medary as a Conspirator.

By the afternoon train from Columbus yesterday, the Hon. Sam. Medary, Editor of the *Crisis*, the organ of the Peace Democracy in Ohio, and for a quarter of a century distinguished as the "wheel-horse" of the Democratic party in this State, was escorted to the city by Deputy U. S. Marshal Sands and Wheeler, and conducted to the U. S. District Court. His arrest was made in Columbus, in his own office, during the morning, and without resistance, or excitement, he was conducted to the train. During the session of the recent U. S. Grand Jury in this city, an indictment was found against him, supposed to be for conspiracy, in connection with the outbreak of P. Thomas & Co.'s operations, as their counsel, and for the purpose of defrauding the Enquirer office being sent for, the proprietors were on his bonds for \$3,000, to appear before Court on the day of trial.—[Cin. Gaz., Saturday.

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THE WAR FOR THE UNION.

War Department Official Despatches.

WAR DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, May 23, 10 o'clock P. M.
To Mr. Gen. Dix:—On Friday evening Gen. Grant commenced a movement for the purpose of compelling Lee to abandon his position at Spotsylvania, the details of which for obvious reasons, should not be made public. It has thus far progressed successfully. Longstreet's corps, started South at one o'clock on Friday night—an hour and a half after Hancock moved—Ewell's corps followed Longstreet last night. The indications are that the rebel army has fallen back beyond the North Anna.

The movement of Gen. Grant has thus far been accomplished without any severe engagements or serious interruption. We now occupy Guinea's Station, Millford Station and South of the Mattaponi on that line.

A despatch received this morning from Gen. Canby dated May 14th at the mouth of Red river, says we have rumors today from rebel sources that "the gunboats, except two succeeded in getting over the falls at Alexandria on the day mentioned in Gen. Banks' despatch."

No despatches have been received to-day from Gen. Butler.

Despatches from Kingston, Ga., state that General Sherman's forces were resting provisions and seven fine iron works and machinery. We have secured two good bridges and an excellent ford across the Etowah.

The cars are now arriving at Kingston with stores, and two days would be given to replenish and fit up.

A despatch just received from General Banks dated Alexandria, May 8th, states that the dam will be completed to-morrow the 9th and the gunboats relieved. He then moved immediately for the Mississippi. Gen. Canby to the mouth of Red river on the 14th inst., collecting forces to assist Banks if necessary.

Despatches from Gen. Butler dated 10 o'clock last night, report that he had been fighting all day, the enemy endeavoring to close in on our lines. We have captured the rebel Gen. Walker of the Texas troops.

Rebel Army Retreating.

NEW YORK, May 23.—A Washington dispatch of yesterday evening states that the rebel army has been retreating since the attack on our right on the 18th.

At 4 o'clock Saturday evening our forces occupied Guinea's Station and Bowling Green, and not enough rebels had then been found to fight with.

FROM GEN. BUTLER'S DEPARTMENT.
NEW YORK, May 23.—The Tribune's 10th corps correspondent under date of Thursday morning says:

"The rebels advanced on our entrenched line across the Peninsula and engaged our pickets, but were driven back. The firing on our skirmish line to day was incessant. Our wounded probably number 150. Towards dusk the rebels made an attempt to force our forces from the roads, but without effect. Our defenses have been greatly strengthened.

Rebel deserters represent the enemy's force at from 20,000 to 30,000, under Beauregard.

Last Thursday morning rapid artillery firing commenced in front of Ames' division, but ceased soon after, probably temporarily.

A rebel battery in a ravine on our front was then pounding away at the woods on our right, dropping a shell or two into our works. Fighting expected that day as the rebels hope to take our position.

Address of the Methodist Conference to the President—Mr. Lincoln's Reply.

A deputation of delegates from the General Conference in session at Philadelphia visited the President on Wednesday and presented to him an address, in which the Conference, representing nearly a million of members, expressed to him the assurance of the loyalty of the Church, the earnest devotion to the interests of the country, and her sympathy with him in the great responsibilities of his high position in this trying hour.

They honor him for his proclamation of liberty, and rejoice in all the acts of the Government designed to secure freedom to the enslaved. In conclusion, they say: "Actuated by the sentiments of the loftiest and purest patriotism, our prayer shall be continually for the preservation of our country and the triumph of our cause, and for a permanent peace, gained by the sacrifice of no moral principles, but found in the Word of God, and securing, in righteousness, liberty and equal rights to all."

Subsequently Rev. Dr. Thornton, delegate from the English Conference, together with Dr. Scott, from the Irish Conference, was presented to the President by the President's earnest and hearty sympathy of the Methodist membership of England and Ireland in the present national struggle and their desire for our success.

The following table of distances from Richmond will be found of interest at the present time:

U. S. 10-40 BONDS.

THESE BONDS are issued under the Act of Congress of March 16, 1864, which provides that all Bonds issued under this Act shall be EXEMPT FROM TAXATION by or under any State or municipal authority. Subscriptions to these Bonds are received in United States notes or notes of National Banks, they are TO BE REDEEMABLE IN COIN, at the pleasure of the Government, at any period not less than TEN MONTHS after their date, and until their redemption FIVE PER CENT. INTEREST WILL BE PAID IN COIN, on Bonds not over one hundred dollars annually and on all other Bonds semi-annually. The interest is payable on the first day of March and September in each year.

Subscribers will receive either Registered or Coupon Bonds, as they may prefer. Registered Bonds are recorded on the books of the U. S. Treasurer, and can be transferred only on the owner's order. Coupon Bonds are payable to bearer, and are more convenient for commercial use.

Subscribers to this loan will have the option of having their Bonds draw interest from March 1st, by paying the nearest interest in coin—or in United States notes, or the notes of National Banks, adding fifty per cent. for premium, or receive their drawing interest from the date of subscription and deposit. As these Bonds are Exempt from Municipal or State Tax, their value is increased from one to three per cent. annum, according to the rate of tax levied in various parts of the country.

At the present rate of premium on gold they pay Over Eight Per Cent. Interest in currency, and are of equal convenience as a permanent or temporary investment.

It is believed that no securities offer so great inducements to lenders as this various descriptions of U. S. Bonds. In all other forms of indebtedness, the faith or ability of private parties or stock companies or separate communities only is pledged for payment, while for the debts of the United States the whole property of the country is held to secure the payment of both principal and interest in coin.

These Bonds may be subscribed for in *Advance* from \$50 up to any magnitude, on the same terms, and are thus made equally available to the smallest lender and the largest capitalist. They can be converted into money at any moment, and the holder will have the benefit of the interest.

It may be useful to state in this connection that the total Funded Debt of the United States on March 1, 1864, was \$706,965,000. The interest on this debt for the coming fiscal year will be \$45,907,146, while the customs revenue in gold for the current fiscal year, ending June 30th, 1864, has been so far at the rate of over \$400,000,000 per annum.

It will be seen that even the present gross revenues of the Government are largely in excess of the wants of the Treasury for the payment of gold interest, while the recent increase of the tariff will doubtless raise the annual receipts from customs on the same amount of importations, to \$150,000,000 per annum.

Instructions to the National Banks acting as loan agents were not issued from the United States Treasury until May 16, but in the first three weeks of April the subscriptions averaged more than TEN MILLIONS A WEEK.

Subscriptions will be received by the First National Bank of Cincinnati, Ohio. Third National Bank of Cincinnati, O. Fourth National Bank of Cincinnati, O. First National Bank of Cleveland, O. Second National Bank of Cleveland, O. First National Bank of Bridgeport, O.

And by all National Banks

which are depositaries of Public money, and all RESPECTABLE BANKS AND HANKERS throughout the country, (acting as agents of the National Depositary Banks) will furnish further information on application and AFFORD EVERY FACILITY TO SUBSCRIBERS.